

After three days in court, Tang trial postponed

Styke testifies, trial likely to resume in fall

By John A. Hawkinson
NEWS EDITOR

The trial of Anna L. Tang — the Wellesley College student who stabbed MIT student Wolfe B. Styke '10 in October 2007 — began last month, and came to an abrupt halt on its third day last week Wednesday.



LEAH BRUNETTO—THE TECH

Informing the court that the Commonwealth-appointed psychiatrist had reversed her opinion on Tang's criminal responsibility on the "eve before the last day" of the trial, defense attorney Robert A. George moved to suspend the trial to allow time to prepare, and Judge Bruce R. Henry allowed it.

A status conference is set for August 17, and the trial is likely to be rescheduled for sometime after that date in September.

The Commonwealth's forensic psychiatrist in the case, Dr. Alison Fife, had submitted a report to the Court in May indicating that she believed Tang was not criminally responsible for the stabbing: that Tang did not



LEAH BRUNETTO—THE TECH

appreciate the wrongfulness of her behavior and lacked the ability to conform her behavior to the requirements of the law.

On the basis of the Fife report, Tang waived her right to a jury trial and proceeded with a bench trial before the

Tang, Page 13

Ortiz named new grad dean

Prof will succeed Lerman, starting August 1

By Elijah Mena
STAFF REPORTER

Chancellor Phillip L. Clay PhD '75 announced the selection of Christine Ortiz, Professor of Materials Science and Engineering, as the new Dean for Graduate Education on June 28. Ortiz is scheduled to assume her position on August 1.

The position was previ-

ously held by Steve R. Lerman '72, who left to become Provost and Executive Vice President of Academic Affairs at George Washington University. Until Ortiz assumes her new position as Dean, the role of the Office of the Dean for Graduate Education will held by Senior Associate Dean Blanche E. Staton.

To help him make his decision to choose the next



ELIJAH MENA—THE TECH

Grad dean, Page 14

Lady Gaga pops by MIT

Shows her teeth for giant Polaroid



ERIC D. SCHMIEDL—THE TECH

Lady Gaga had her portrait taken on the 3rd floor of Building N52 on Wednesday, June 30. During her departure at approximately 3 p.m., Gaga took two minutes to sign autographs from the seat of her escort for anxious fans.

By Ana Lyons
NEWS EDITOR

With aviator sunglasses hiding her eyes, lips painted fire-engine red, crystals dripping down her neck, and platinum blonde hair whisked to the side, the world-famous pop singer and recording artist Lady Gaga made a guest appearance to the MIT campus last Wednesday.

Representing the Polaroid Corporation as its official creative director, Gaga's visit to

MIT included a photo shoot on the third floor of the MIT Museum. Polaroid made a roughly ten thousand item donation to the museum, and Gaga's photo shoot capped off the unveiling of the museum's new collection.

Gaga was recently named creative director for the Polaroid Corporation this past January.

Gaga posed for a 20-inch by 24-inch black and white Polaroid camera, which is one of the last of its kind and

takes two people to operate. With her teeth showing, Gaga was snapped while in her notorious "claw" pose — similar to that found in her "Bad Romance" music video.

The photo will remain on permanent display at the MIT museum, alongside Polaroid's donation of cameras and other artifacts, spanning roughly 70 years of the company's technological history.

Contributing to the com-

Gaga, Page 3

Student calls for oil spill aid; gains media attention

By Ana Lyons
NEWS EDITOR

On June 10, Nora O. Hickey '12 sent an email to President Susan J. Hockfield and copied all the dormitory lists, urging MIT to take a more active role in the recent BP oil spill.

"We have some of the best engineers and scientists in the world, and in the face of a disaster caused

by what appears to be poor engineering practices, our institution could do a lot to contribute to resolving this world crisis," Hickey wrote.

Hickey worked as an intern at the New England Aquarium in Boston last spring while studying at MIT. She pointed out in her email that the aquarium is using its own resources to help aid inquired

animals, such as sea turtles.

She wrote, "while the aquarium has the resources to treat the results of the spill, MIT has the resources to develop solutions to stop the spill. The oil leak in the Gulf of Mexico is an opportunity for the Massachusetts Institute of Technology to make real changes in the world."

The email — entitled "MIT's in-

volvement in fixing the oil leak" — gained the attention of several local media sources, such as the *Boston Business Journal* and *The Journal of New England Technology*, which published stories speaking of Hickey's email to the president.

"There was no official response [to my email]," Hickey told *The*

Spill, Page 14

Accepting the 'Challenge' Students chug milk to celebrate Fourth

By Jingyun Fan
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

"Come celebrate AMERICA'S BIRTHDAY with class!" Patrick C. McDaniel '13 wrote to summer residents of East Campus on July 3. "Join us tomorrow for the GALLON CHALLENGE!"

This Fourth of July, participants to the Gallon Challenge were encouraged to consume and retain a gallon of milk within one hour in order to show their patriotism.

The event was organized by McDaniel and Robert M. Johnson '13. The last EC gallon challenge was held at the beginning of last semester, however, Johnson said that gallon challenges aren't exactly scheduled regularly. The event occurs "perhaps whenever someone feels like they haven't had enough cal-

Milk, Page 14

IN SHORT

LSC will be showing free screenings of *Kick-Ass* for MIT students in 26-100 at 8 p.m. this Friday and Saturday.

The Last Hope hackers conference will be held from July 18 to 20 at Hotel Pennsylvania in New York City. Registration information can be found at: <http://www.thelasthope.org/>

Send news information and tips to news@tech.mit.edu

Supreme Court defers IP case

The Supreme Court has elected to defer a decision on whether to take *Stanford University v. Roche Molecular Systems, et al.*, the intellectual property case that Stanford, MIT, and scores of universities have asked the Court to hear.

The case is about whether the laws about ownership of federal-

ly-funded research trump specific contract language that a funded researcher at a university may have signed, and under what circumstances universities own title to federally-funded patents.

In an order issued on the last day of this year's term, June 28, the Court invited the Solicitor General to file a brief on the case.

According to Patrick Dunkley, senior university counsel for Stanford University, "there is no time limit for the Solicitor General to

provide their input."

The Court reconvenes in October, so no actions on the case will be made before then.

After the Solicitor General files his or her brief, the Court will decide whether or not to take the case.

Stanford University filed a reply brief on June 5, 2010. That brief, as well as the other five filings in the case, is available at <http://tech.mit.edu/V130/N23/scotus/>.

— John A. Hawkinson

CONTROVERSY AVOIDANCE

It's killing meritocracy and transparency in modern society.

OPN, p. 4

THE LAST AIRBENDER

Poor writing will disappoint fans of the animated series. ARTS, p. 6

FIVE GHOSTS REVIEW

Indie pop band Stars does it again. ARTS, p. 7



SAVORY SUMMER STOPS

Tech staff writers visit eateries around the country, sharing stories of good grub.

ARTS, p. 8-9

DEW TOUR COMES TO BOSTON

Skateboarding lights up the TD Garden.

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East swelters in triple digits; more to come

BOSTON — Children at a day camp near here were pulled from the swimming pool once an hour so the lifeguards could plunge in and cool off. Commuter trains in Washington were slowed because of overheating tracks. Horse-racing tracks were closed in Philadelphia and Wilmington, Del.

Up and down the Eastern Seaboard on Tuesday, safety concerns upended the usual routines as a brutal blast of heat brought temperatures in excess of 100 degrees in several cities, with little relief expected for days to come.

The high of 103 in New York broke a record for the date. Baltimore hit 105, the highest temperature recorded since 1983, and in Boston, the temperature reached 100 degrees for the first time since 2002.

The culprit was a high pressure system “tethered along the East Coast,” said Charlie Foley, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Taunton, Mass.

Coastal areas of New England got a modest reprieve from a shallow sea breeze, but inland regions sweltered.

In Philadelphia, a 92-year-old woman was found dead in her home on the second floor, where all but one window was closed. The medical examiner ruled that extreme heat was a factor in her death.

And in Worcester, Mass., the state’s lieutenant governor, Timothy Murray, was hospitalized Monday night with fatigue and chest pains after marching in five parades over the Fourth of July weekend. A spokesman said that the extreme heat was partly to blame and that Murray would be released Wednesday.

In Boston, nine firefighters were taken to hospitals and given intravenous fluids after fighting a blaze fueled by an unattended propane grill on the roof of a brownstone.

In Washington, commutes were longer after trains were ordered to operate at least 20 mph under maximum speeds because of the heat. In Baltimore, officials planned to distribute bottled water to the homeless over the coming days.

—Abby Goodnough, *The New York Times*

U.S. and Israel shift attention to peace process

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama said Tuesday that he expected direct negotiations between Israelis and Palestinians to begin “well before” a moratorium on settlement construction expires at the end of September, and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu ’75 of Israel pledged to take “concrete steps” in the coming weeks to get the talks moving.

—Sheryl Gay Stolberg and Mark Landler, *The New York Times*

Law in Arizona is causing a split in border talks

PHOENIX — For nearly 30 years, the governors of the states that line both sides of the U.S.-Mexico border have gathered to celebrate border bonhomie. They issue proclamations and pledges to work together, air grievances and concerns behind closed doors and pose for the cameras in symbolic showings of cooperation.

But this year the 28th annual conference has collided headlong with Arizona’s crackdown on illegal immigration, inspiring bitter recriminations among Mexican governors and rancor among some U.S. ones.

Gov. Jan Brewer of Arizona has championed the new state law that gives local police officers broader authority to question people they stop about their immigration status. On Tuesday, the U.S. Justice Department filed suit to challenge the law.

—Randal C. Archibold, *The New York Times*

Colleges learn cheaters’ tricks to stop them; this includes TEAL

By Trip Gabriel

THE NEW YORK TIMES

ORLANDO, Fla. — The frontier in the battle to defeat student cheating may be here at the testing center of the University of Central Florida.

The 228 computers that students use are recessed into desk tops so that anyone trying to photograph the screen — using, say, a pen with a hidden camera, in order to help a friend who will take the test later — is easy to spot. Scratch paper is allowed — but it is stamped with the date and must be turned in later.

When a proctor sees something suspicious, he records the student’s real-time work at the computer and directs an overhead camera to zoom in, and both sets of images are burned onto a CD for evidence.

Taylor Ellis, the associate dean who runs the testing center within the business school at Central Florida, the nation’s third-largest campus by enrollment, said that cheating had dropped significantly, to 14 suspected incidents out of 64,000 exams administered during the spring semester.

“I will never stop it completely, but I’ll find out about it,” he said.

As the eternal temptation of students to cheat has gone high-tech — not just on exams, but by cutting and pasting from the Internet and sharing of homework online like music files — educators have responded with their own efforts to crack down.

Anti-plagiarism services requiring students to submit papers to be vetted for copying is a booming business. Fifty-five percent of colleges and universities now use such a service, according to the Campus Computing Survey.

The extent of student cheating, difficult to measure precisely, appears widespread at colleges. In surveys of 14,000 undergraduates over the last four years, an average of 61 percent admitted to cheating on assignments and exams.

At MIT, David E. Pritchard, a physics professor, was able to accurately measure homework copying with software he had developed for another purpose — to allow students to complete sets of physics problems online. Some answered the questions so fast, “at first I thought

we had some geniuses here at MIT,” Pritchard said. Then he realized they were completing problems in less time than it took to read them and were copying the answers — mostly, it turned out, from e-mail messages from friends who had already done the assignment.

About 20 percent copied one-third or more of their homework, according to a study Pritchard and colleagues published this year. Students who copy homework find answers at sites like Course Hero, which is a kind of Napster of homework sharing, where students from more than 3,500 institutions upload papers, class notes and past exams.

Another site, Cramster, specializes in solutions to textbook questions in science and engineering. It boasts answers from 77 physics textbooks — but not Pritchard’s popular “Mastering Physics,” an online tutorial, because his publisher, Pearson, searches the Web for solutions and requests they be taken down to protect its copyright.

“You can use technology as well for detecting as for committing” cheating, Pritchard said.

Circuitry with a feel for humanity

By Amy Harmon

THE NEW YORK TIMES

Nothing Eileen Oldaker tried could calm her mother when she called from the nursing home, disoriented and distressed in what was likely the early stages of dementia. So Oldaker hung up, dialed the nurses’ station and begged them to get Paro.

Paro is a robot modeled after a baby harp seal. It trills and paddles when petted, blinks when the lights go up, opens its eyes at loud noises and yelps when handled roughly or held upside down. Two microprocessors under its artificial white fur adjust its behavior based on information from dozens of hidden sensors that monitor sound, light, temperature and touch. It perks up at the sound of its name, praise and, over time, the words it hears frequently.

“Oh, there’s my baby,” Oldaker’s mother, Millie Lesek, exclaimed that night last winter when a staff member delivered the seal to her. “Here, Paro, come to me.”

“Meeaaakk,” it replied, blinking up

at her through long lashes.

Janet Walters, the staff member at Vincentian Home in Pittsburgh who recalled the incident, said she asked Lesek if she would watch Paro for a little while: “I need someone to babysit,” she told her.

“Don’t rush,” Lesek instructed, stroking Paro’s antiseptic coat in a motion that elicited a wriggle of apparent delight. “He can stay the night.”

After years of effort to coax empathy from circuitry, devices designed to soothe, support and keep us company are venturing out of the laboratory. Paro, its name derived from the first sounds of the words “personal robot,” is one of a handful that take forms that are often odd, still primitive and yet, for at least some early users, strangely compelling.

For those with a hankering for a custom-built companion and \$125,000 to spend, a talking robotic head can be modeled on the personality of your choice. It will smile at its own jokes and recognize familiar faces.

Robots guided by some form of

artificial intelligence now explore outer space, drop bombs, perform surgery and play soccer. Computers running artificial intelligence software handle customer service calls and beat humans at chess and, maybe, “Jeopardy!”

But building a machine that fills the basic human need for companionship has proven more difficult. Even at its edgiest, artificial intelligence cannot hold up its side of a wide-ranging conversation or, say, tell by an expression when someone is about to cry. Still, the new devices take advantage of the innate soft spot many people have for objects that seem to care — or need someone to care for them.

Their appearances in nursing homes, schools and the occasional living room are adding fuel to science fiction fantasies of machines that people can relate to as well as rely on. And they are adding a personal dimension to a debate over what human responsibilities machines should, and should not, be allowed to undertake.

WEATHER

Dreaming of Winter Yet?

By Brian H Tang

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

Boy, it’s hot! Yesterday’s air temperature reached 100°F (38°C) at Logan Airport, which fell just short of a record high. However, the heat index, which is a measure of how it actually feels due to the combined temperature and humidity, made it feel closer to 105°F (41°C). At night, there is little relief from the stifling heat, making it really uncomfortable to sleep for those without air conditioning.

Fortunately, the worst of the heat was yesterday. A weak storm

system to the south will push in cooler, maritime air over the region. While it will still be on the hot and humid side, it will be more tolerable. If you can escape to the beach, the ocean temperature is in the refreshing upper-60s°F (20°C).

True relief from the heat likely will not come till this weekend, when a strong cold front is forecasted to push through the region. The tradeoff is that as the jet stream comes back south, we will likely see a resumption of periodic thunderstorms. In the meantime, pools, beaches, ice cream, and dreams of winter will have to do.

Extended Forecast

Today: Sunny and a little cooler. E winds 5-10 mph. High 90°F (32°C).

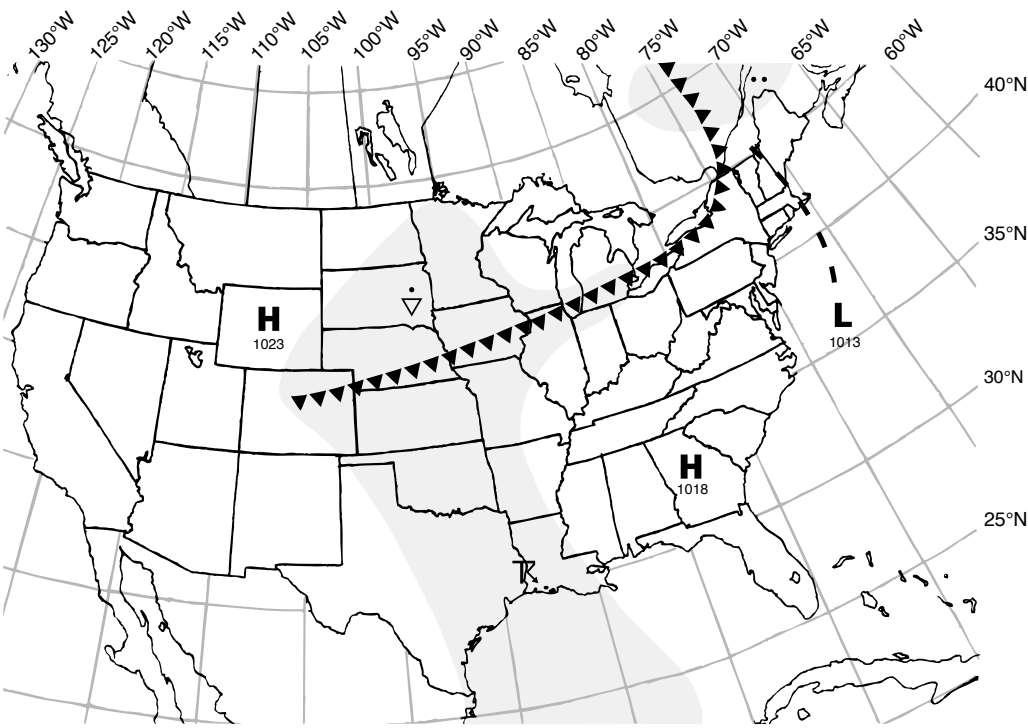
Tonight: Mostly cloudy. Low 74°F (23°C).

Tomorrow: Partly cloudy. S winds 5-10 mph. High 88°F (31°C).

Friday: Sunny. S winds 10-15 mph. High 89°F (32°C).

Saturday: Increasing clouds with a chance of storms in the afternoon. High 88°F (31°C).

Sunday: Mostly cloudy with a chance of storms. High 83°F (28°C).



Situation for Noon Eastern Time, Wednesday, July 7, 2010

Weather Systems	Weather Fronts	Precipitation Symbols	Other Symbols
H High Pressure	--- Trough	Snow: *	☁ Fog
L Low Pressure	— Warm Front	Showers: ▽	⚡ Thunderstorm
§ Hurricane	▲▲ Cold Front	Light: *	∞ Haze
	▲ Stationary Front	Moderate: **	
		Heavy: ***	

Compiled by MIT Meteorology Staff and The Tech

‘Are you sure this is legal?’: a memorable encounter with Gaga

By Yan Zhu

REPORTER’S NOTEBOOK

The expression of toughened boredom on the police officer’s face said quite clearly, “Lady Gaga does not want a 12-person serving of Caesar salad.”

As if on cue, an MIT Museum employee appeared in the slim hallway and briskly escorted ten MIT students, with me still gripping an uneaten tray of salad, from the museum into the thick sludge of fans congealing in an alleyway outside MITERS. Despite inviting a dozen students, myself included, to a focus group and regaling us with free pizza and salad on the morning of Gaga’s photo shoot, Polaroid asked us to stay out of the museum until after Lady Gaga walked out wearing half of the 8.022 lecture demonstrations (or so I imagined).

The leftover salad, which we’d tried to “deliver” to Lady Gaga in case she needed sustenance to get through the long, hard task of being photographed while sitting in a chair, was dubbed “Lady Gaga’s Rejected Salad” and abandoned to the fame-hungry masses.

It was 12:30 p.m. We had invitations to a Polaroid press conference in two hours and projects waiting to be UROPed in air-conditioned labs, but for now, the feverish heat of the crowd was as viral as a YouTube parody of a music video by...never mind.

We stuck around, cultivating incipient sunburns and staring into a parking lot while trying to ignore the terrifying implications of having voluntarily waited two hours to get a glimpse of the right hand of



GREG STEINBRECHER—THE TECH

Yan Zhu ‘12 asked Lady Gaga to sign her MIT ID card when Gaga visited the MIT Museum on Wednesday June 30. Gaga spent a couple minutes signing autographs for fans on her departure at approximately 3 p.m.

someone whose stage name seems derived from the lexicon of 2-month-olds. At one point, one of Gaga’s chauffeurs suddenly walked away from his car and toward the back entrance to the museum, drawing eyeballs toward him like dipoles in a magnetic field as the crowd hushed in anticipation of a clicking doorknob, plausibly followed by a woman clad in diamonds, gyroscopes, and

razor blades.

Fans stood tense, poised on the cusp of high-pitched shrieks, as he lifted the lid of a dumpster bin and anticlimactically tossed away an empty container of ice cream. Lady Gaga, apparently, would not make her exit through the dumpster. Instead, at around 3 p.m., she stepped into a nondescript black car from a museum doorway originally designed

for use by normal, less-famous humans.

As she rolled out of the parking lot accompanied by choruses of love proclamations and screams of ecstasy by those who had just achieved life fulfillment, I snapped tabloid-quality pictures of the back of her head through a tinted car window before I discovered that I could run to the other side of her vehicle without getting arrested.

From there, the logical next step was to bullet toward her face like a homing beacon. As it turns out, weaving through throngs of hysterical Lady Gaga fans is much, much easier than trying to get to class in 6-120 through the Infinite while a tourist group is taking pictures of Course III students in that lab with the glass walls. Suddenly, I was closer to Lady Gaga than I had ever been. She was autographing everything that anyone put in front of her unrolled window. I checked my pockets. I had a camera (which was black), a cell phone (which was also black), a debit card (which was too cluttered with numbers), a Charlie Card (which would have been less valuable signed than a plain sheet of paper), and an MIT ID.

Without thinking too hard, I thrust the ID into Lady Gaga’s manicured fingers and said, “Lady Gaga! Will you sign my MIT ID?” Lady Gaga asked in a voice lazily dripping with boredom and limousines and private yachts, “Are you sure this is legal?”

“No,” I replied.

She then scrawled something illegible on my ID that should have said “Lady Gaga” but might just as well have been “Lime Grog.” Friends congratulated me on my luck for the rest of the week. Some of them were even jealous enough to turn the color of lime grog.

Polaroid donates history to MIT Museum

Over ten thousand technological pieces spanning over 70 years

Gaga, from Page 1

pany’s decision to donate to the MIT Museum, Polaroid has local origins, as it was originally founded in Cambridge in 1937.

“Honest to God, when I first found out about [the donation], I thought it was a joke,” said Deborah Douglas, MIT Museum’s curator of science and technology.

According to Deborah, negotiations for the massive collection of historical Polaroid artifacts began last December and January, and the official deed of gift was signed last May.

Once the donation was officially made, “we had amazing people come in [and organize inventory],” she said. “They had two weeks to take a picture of ten thousand items— to take inventory...We had an assembly line going.”

Although Gaga left before the photo was unveiled, Polaroid’s Corporate President Scott Hardy, CEO Stephen G. Miller, Chief Marketing Officer Jon Pollock, and Douglas, addressed a crowd of press and pre-selected MIT students regarding their plans for the newly donated Polaroid Archive.

Students at the unveiling were those whose student group’s share space with the museum’s building as well as those who got special access to be in a “Polaroid focus group.”

“Now we have it roughly in place,



ERIC D. SCHMIEDL—THE TECH

Polaroid executives and MIT Museum curator Deborah Douglas pose with the Lady Gaga portrait at the Polaroid press conference at the MIT Museum. On June 30, Lady Gaga came to MIT to have her portrait taken with an extremely rare Polaroid 20x24 camera. The resulting portrait was donated to the MIT Museum.

and we have got to tell the world about [the donation], because it’s really fantastic,” Deborah said.

“MIT is all about making things and doing things, and in one sense, this business of Lady Gaga, you think ‘oh it’s celebrity’ and so forth...but on the other hand, it’s as curator’s dream that she would want to come here to the museum and learn about the history of this technology,” she said.

Gaga was already in the Cam-

bridge area before visiting MIT for her back-to-back concerts, performed on July 1 and July 2 at TD Bank North Garden.

“It was really good timing because Lady Gaga was in town for her concert, and we thought why don’t we bring her here to MIT,” Douglass said. “We were really sorry she wasn’t here today [for the event]... we’re bummed out about that.”

Before the departing from the museum’s back entrance however, Gaga

did take a couple minutes to sign autographs for students and fans.

While some onlookers had her sign more traditional items such as photographs and biographies of the singer, one student had Gaga sign what appeared to be a 1000 micro-liter pipette.

Yan Zhu ’12 was also among those who got an authentic Gaga autograph; she got it on her MIT ID.

See Zhu’s story of her Lady Gaga experience in this story’s sidebar.



ERIC D. SCHMIEDL—THE TECH

As Lady Gaga left the photo shoot from the back of Building N52, one MIT student asked her to sign his lab pipette. On June 30, Lady Gaga came to MIT to have her portrait taken with an extremely rare Polaroid 20x24 camera from the MIT Museum.

LEGAL COUNSEL

MIT students, family, employers and start-ups seeking U.S. legal counsel, campus or office consultation. Call:

James Dennis Leary, Esq.
321-544-0012

Solution to Sudoku

from page 11

3	8	1	6	2	9	5	7	4
2	9	5	7	3	4	6	8	1
4	6	7	5	8	1	2	3	9
8	4	9	3	7	6	1	5	2
1	7	3	2	4	5	8	9	6
5	2	6	1	9	8	3	4	7
7	1	8	4	6	3	9	2	5
9	5	2	8	1	7	4	6	3
6	3	4	9	5	2	7	1	8

Solution to Kenken

from page 11

20x	3÷	2÷	5-	2-	
4	3	2	1	6	5
5	1	4	6	2	3
1-	9+			2-	3-
3	6	1	2	5	4
2	5	6	4	3	1
5-	2÷	2-	1-	3÷	
1	2	5	3	4	6
6	4	3	5	1	2

Solution to Crossword

from page 11

R	A	R	E	R		R	H	O		M	E	D	I	C
A	L	O	N	E		E	A	R		O	V	I	N	E
H	E	A	R	T	A	C	H	E		R	E	A	T	A
S	C	R	I	A	B	I	N		H	E	R	M	E	S
			C	R	I	T	I	C	A	L		O	N	E
B	A	C	H		D	A	U	B	S		A	N	T	S
O	W	L		H	E	L	M	S		E	N	D		
P	L	U	M	E	S				B	A	N	J	O	S
		B	O	N		A	S	S	E	T		I	D	A
A	S	H	E		D	I	N	A	H		G	M	E	N
T	O		F	A	M	I	L	I	A	L				
L	O	U	P	E	S		P	A	N	D	O	R	A	S
A	T	S	E	A		S	P	A	D	E	W	O	R	K
S	H	E	A	R		H	E	M		P	E	S	C	I
T	E	S	T	S		E	D	S		T	R	E	S	S



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By Jonathon Richmond
ADVISORY BOARD

However, in contradiction to this, he believes that “our citizens have the right to satirize Muhammad without fear of retribution, just as they have the right to declare themselves gay or to let their religious beliefs be known” and that the “right” to display Islam’s holy prophet in a bear costume should be protected. He feels that failing to print such a cartoon represents an attack on our “core democratic principles.” And criticizes *The Tech* for refusing to print what he describes as

By Keith Yost
STAFF COLUMNIST

Looking back, it seems almost quaint

We must recognize that our world is enriched by the presence of a multitude of cultures, and reach out to accommo-

that one of our greatest presidents earned his office by engaging the most intractable problem of his time, unscripted and unmoderated, against an extremely capable opponent. By contrast, fellow Illinoisan Barack Obama broke onto the national scene by giving a prepared reading of elegant but hollow platitudes to a crowd of partisan supporters. Given the nature of modern politics as popularity contests, and the power that sound bites have in a world of YouTube and 24-hour cable news channels, such a shift was inescapable — politics will never be unconstrained of the need to minimize offense at the expense of free discourse. The real tragedy, and what we must now work to reclaim, is the extent to which political correctness has extended its grasp

Putting down any element of society in an offensive way spreads fear and closes off that freedom.

Avoidance, Page 5

In the June 11 issue, the second paragraph of a caption describing top compensation at MIT omitted a word from the definition of the "Paid compensation" column in the accompanying table. "Paid compensation" is the sum of "base compensation," "bonus & incentive compensation," and "other reportable compensation." The second item was incorrectly rendered as "bonus & compensation." The same caption omitted an explanation of "MITIMCo." MITIMCo, the MIT Investment Management Company, manages MIT's investments and endowment. MITIMCo employees' compensation is linked to the performance of MITIMCo's investments. Professor Nelson Repenning's half-million dollar "other reportable compensation" is due to his role as faculty director of a custom executive education program called the BP-MIT Operations Academy.

Because of an editing error, an interview with Professor

An article on the Anna Tang stabbing from October 26, 2007, misspelled the given name of the Next House night watchman. His name is Russell J. Novello, not Russel.

Letters, columns, and cartoons must bear the authors' signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will

Guest columns are opinion articles submitted by members of the MIT or local community.

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OPEN LETTER

In preparation for MIT's new campus centennial, a modest proposal to Hockfield

The following petition was sent to President Susan J. Hockfield on June 25, 2010.

Back in 1915, President Richard C. Mather undertook the monumental task of choosing a few pioneers of human thought, whose names would be commemorated by being carved in the walls of MIT's buildings surrounding what is today Killian Court. The selection was not without controversy, but it produced what is without doubt one of the most characteristic and distinguishing features of MIT's Cambridge campus and of the humanistic spirit that drives the minds working in it.

Almost a century has passed, and human

knowledge has progressed exponentially since the Dome was built. Since President Maclaurin's quest, new names have earned universal recognition for their contribution to fields of knowledge that are of interest to MIT, names that deserve to stand side to side with the giants of the past. As the new campus approaches its first centennial, there is an opportunity to celebrate those minds by commemorating their names. As 2016 approaches, it would be a fitting enterprise to conduct a new census of foundational and revolutionary figures that were not included in the previous list, and to enshrine their names in a fitting place within MIT.

Think about this, President Hockfield. Should Einstein's name not be mentioned along with Newton's? What about Marie Curie's name, that pioneer not only of modern science, but also of the participation of women in the scientific enterprise? What about the names of so many others in so many other fields, such as science, engineering, architecture, biology and the humanities, whose ideas back in 1915 were either too recent or even not enunciated, but who have since then emerged victorious and reshaped our outlook of the world?

They were not included then, but we can confidently celebrate them now. I invite

you to consider this and make it your project, as we approach the 2016 jubilee. Just as President Maclaurin did in March of 1915, you can request from the great minds inside MIT a list of the names of those even greater minds that have shaped their fields and have not yet been recognized yet in that pantheon of human knowledge that are the Killian Court carvings. Let us update the list of names inscribed outside of MIT's walls, so that they may continue to serve as an inspiration for all of us that grow and sweat within them. And may this become a centennial tradition for MIT.

Roberto Perez-Franco G

A future of conformity within the political sphere

Avoidance, from Page 4

chains. We are straitjacketed by the shibboleths of an ultra-polite society, its norms defined not by the tolerances of its average citizen, but of its most easily offended and anal-retentive. Today we sit in fear of the blacklist, its unspoken rules not as formal and defined as they once were in the days of Joseph McCarthy and the House Un-American Activities Committee, but equally real, more insidious, and more broadly intrusive upon our political consciousness.

Consider the case of David Weigel, formerly of *The Washington Post*. Mr. Weigel was ousted when it was revealed, through the leaking of private emails he wrote prior to taking his job at the *Post*, that he disregards right-wing demagogues such as Rush Limbaugh and Pat Buchanan. Having hired Mr. Weigel, a declared libertarian, to write an opinion blog covering the Tea Party movement, *The Washington Post* apparently had a funny-if-it-weren't-real expectation that Weigel would never, in public or in private, in the past or future, ever express a disagreeable opinion.

Then there is the example of Helen Thomas, formerly of the White House Press Corps. As a second generation Arab immigrant, Mrs. Thomas held pro-Palestinian views her entire life, and judging from the plethora of awards and accolades she received during her 67 years of news work, her ownership of such views never interfered with the exercise of her journalistic talents. Yet, one afternoon, at 89 years of age, she had the audacity to share those views, and in that moment it seems the entire world decided she was unfit, and perhaps had always been unfit, for a career in journalism.

And who could forget the tale of Larry Summers, formerly of Harvard University? Mr. Summers was forced to resign from his job as president of Harvard after he gave a speech in which he mused openly on the possible reasons why women are not well represented in the upper echelons of math, science, and engineering. One hypothesis in particular got him in trouble, and it goes like this: studies reveal that on average, men and

women score equally well on intelligence and aptitude tests (give or take a tenth of a standard deviation across test subsections). However, the preponderance of evidence also suggests that the variability of male intelligence is larger than that of women (see Hedges and Nowell (1995), Deary, Irwing, Der, and Bates (2007), Hyde, Lindberg, Linn, Ellis, and Williams (2008), Hyde and Mertz (2009) for examples). The study by Hedges and Nowell in particular finds that in the top and bottom 2 percent of the population, males outnumber females 2 to 1. If this variability is real, and aptitude tests are indeed a good predictor of performance, then those areas of society which enlist only the top percentile of a population — business, politics, high technology, and so on — will be male dominated even if there exists no societal bias against women.

We might not like the consequences of Mr. Summers' logic (it implies, among other things, that the average male MIT student is smarter than the average female MIT student, and that Institute gender ratios — such as the 5 to 1 ratio of male to female MIT physics grad students — are justified), but does it really make him a bigot? When did we, as a society, begin asserting a right to muzzle him? When did we begin believing that public figures, even opinion bloggers such as Mr. Weigel, should be devoid of opinion?

McChrystal was stripped of his position for no greater reason than because he criticized the policy preferences of Joe Biden...

The worst casualty so far is General Stanley McChrystal, formerly of the International Security Assistance Force. Many in the punditocracy have been quick to paint the general's recent departure as a necessary evil. As the reasoning goes, were we to allow McChrystal to speak his mind openly, we would soon find ourselves on the slippery slope to some sort of Turkey-esque hybrid martial-democracy.

But let's be clear — McChrystal was never insubordinate. He never disobeyed the president's orders, he upheld both the letter and spirit of his commander-in-chief's policy decisions, he spent every day of his duty conducting the war in Afghanistan in the manner he thought was in best concordance with the president's wishes. Unlike that other famous general to be relieved of command, Douglas MacArthur, McChrystal never criticized Obama's military policy in Afghanistan (indeed, the general designed it), and he certainly did nothing on par with MacArthur's bald-faced attempt to usurp the presidential power to conduct diplomacy. McChrystal was stripped of his position for no greater reason than because he criticized (accurately, for what it's worth) the policy preferences of Joe Biden and the diplomatic ability of Karl Eikenberry, in what he presumed was an off-the-record discussion with a Rolling Stone reporter.

McChrystal's departure is a monumental blow to our war effort in Afghanistan. Not only is he one of America's very best counter-insurgency minds, but he, after more than a year at his post, was uniquely positioned to manage the war. He had, through frequent meetings and force of character, earned the hard-won respect of Afghanistan's tribal leaders. He had a close working relationship with President Karzai, and had crafted a highly functional leadership team. His successor, General Petraeus, may be an equally brilliant counter-insurgent, but he will have to start from a clean slate in building relationships with Afghanistan's leaders, and, after McChrystal's leadership team is liquidated, Petraeus will have to rebuild the command team from scratch. As the war enters one of its most pivotal moments, this is a tall-order for the 58-year-old cancer survivor.

Even if McChrystal was not irreplaceable, his ouster sets the wrong tone for civil-military relations. President Obama remains committed to withdrawing from Afghanistan when the conditions on the ground are right. But who will judge the conditions? How can we trust the assessments of our generals to be unbiased, when we know they will be fired for reporting conditions that are po-

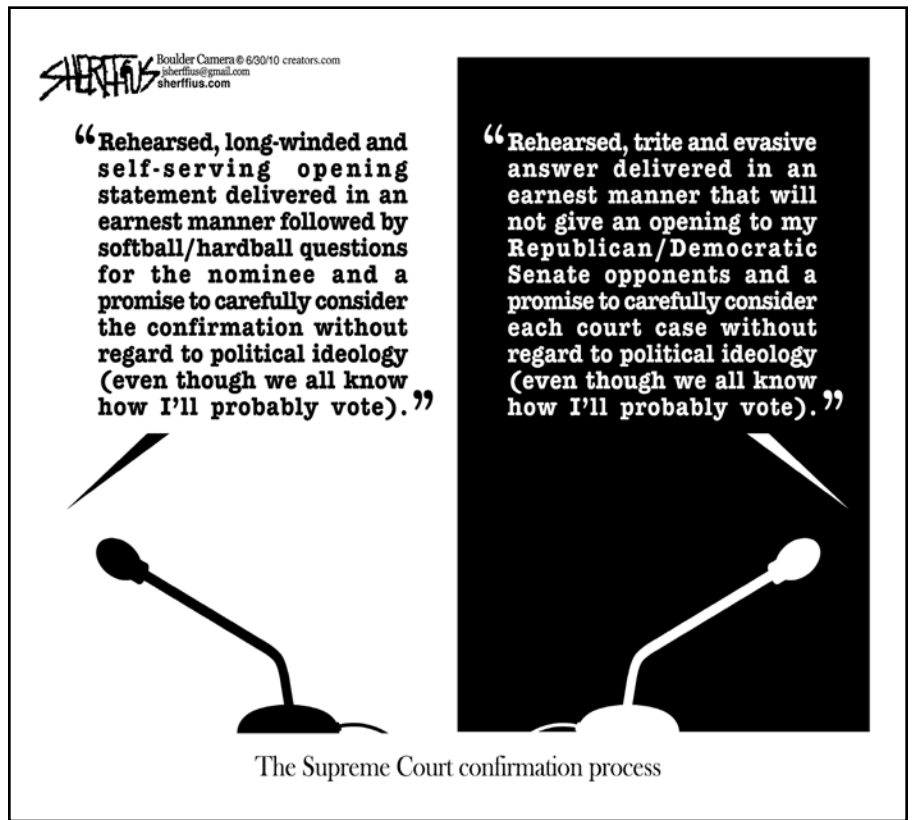
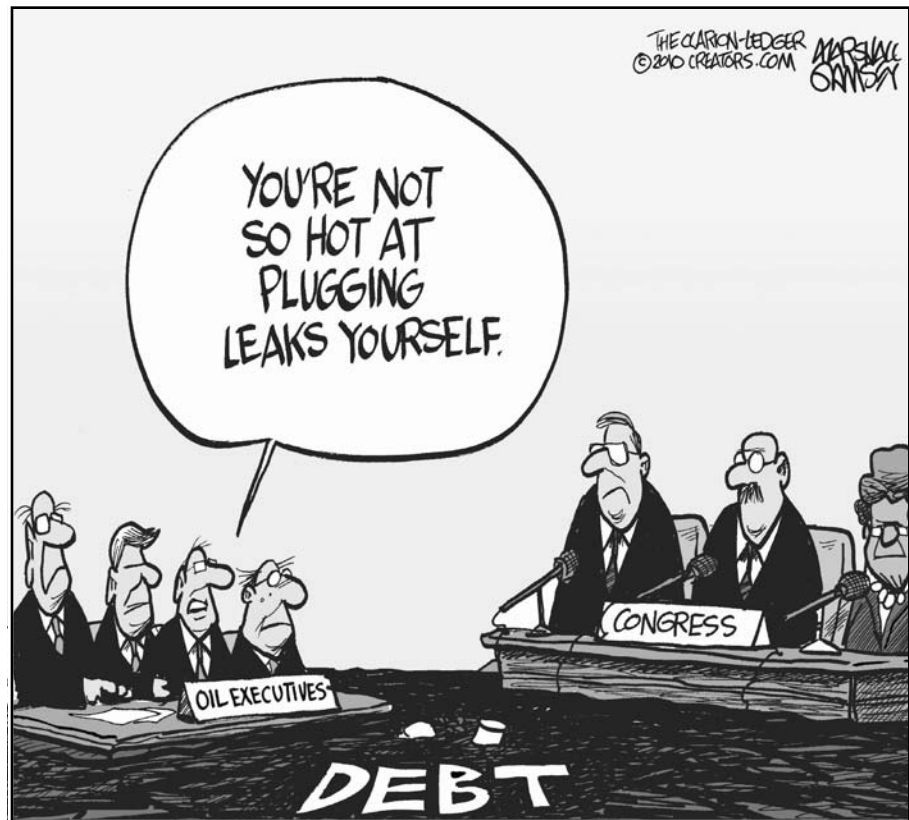
lity inconvenient to their masters? How can we avoid developing a credibility gap, when the American people rightfully have no reason to believe they are being told the truth by military commanders?

Should we allow the trend of political correctness to continue, what sort of dystopia would we face?

Should we allow the trend of political correctness to continue, what sort of dystopia would we face? The recent confirmation battle over Elena Kagan provides some clues. The strength of Kagan's legal mind is not what has placed her before confirmation committees today — it is her disturbingly uncluttered record, the absence of any sort of recorded viewpoint on anything of substance, that has made her, politically, the ideal candidate for the Supreme Court. Fifteen years ago, she decried the “vapid and hollow charade” of the judicial confirmation process; today she has embraced it fully.

In the dark (and none too distant) PC future, we will find our public discourse dominated by an army of Kagan-bots, ultraconservative managers of their public record, unwilling to stand behind any belief except that earthquakes are bad, America is good, and everyone's children are above-average. Demanding conformity in public expression does not produce strength — it selects for individuals who are willing to repeat statements they do not believe, and against individuals who are unwilling to refuse others their open and honest opinion. America needs to regain its stomach for free discourse. I write this not just as an ambitious person who has written too much for his own good, but as an American citizen concerned for his country.

Do you agree or disagree? Excellent. The Tech is looking for regular opinion writers for the upcoming 2010-2011 school year. Email opinion@the-tech.mit.edu to get information on joining.



ALBUM REVIEW

Stars paint memories in shades of longing

Five Ghosts explores a new theme of sweet morbidity

By Maggie Liu
ARTS EDITOR

If anyone asked me what band I could listen to without ever getting sick of them, I'd have to say hands down, it is Stars. Stars, a Canadian indie pop band, is closely related to the band Broken Social Scene (actually, all of the members of Stars are members of BSS). The band is known for setting poetry to music; it is difficult to describe their musical style without using the words beautiful or ethereal. Their characteristic electronic sound is interwoven with string instrumentation, narrative lyrics, and soothing, caressing vocals. Their songs range from whispered words to upbeat numbers. I can't help but gush about the vocals. Quite a few of their songs feature duet vocals with Torquil Campbell and Amy Millan, whose voices create a harmony that cannot be duplicated easily.

Even when Stars ventures into more catchy, pop territory, the vocals continue to bring depth to the tracks. Laced with wistfulness, the vocals mingle and intertwine to create an atmosphere of longing and reminiscence, not unlike that of sifting through memories one holds dear to the heart. These ghosts that linger in the backdrop are ghosts of feelings, memories, and secrets.

Hence, I found it quite fitting that Stars' most recent album is entitled *Five Ghosts*. With all their heartfelt songs about hearts, memories, and lost lovers, I thought it'd only be a matter of time before they explicitly addressed the ghosts. There is a quiet morbidity to Stars that is often overshadowed by the solid vocals and lyrical narratives. However, *Five Ghosts* highlights this morbidity and creates something eerily beautiful and delicate from the dark recesses of the tone. While they wander off from their normal ballads about unrequited romance and lovelorn individuals, they are still able to retain their trademark style.

My personal favorite tracks are "Dead Hearts" and "Changes." "Dead Hearts" follows the classic formula of Stars' hit songs. Crooned phrases dissolve into upbeat, catchy instrumentation, climaxing with strings. The lyrics are what really drew me to the song—there is an innocent curiosity



—BIG HASSLE PUBLICITY

Five Ghosts explores the realm of the left behind.

with the ghosts.

"Changes," a soft ballad, is more in the style of the Stars' past albums back in 2005 and 2007. Millan takes her time in reassured and lilting croons. The bass and faint electro instrumentation could easily be swapped with acoustics. Although one can distinguish more of Stars' original roots, they still show more maturity and growth since their last album. The simplicity of the instrumentation serves as a platform for the gorgeous vocals as Millan's voice curls around the listener in a snug embrace.

On the other hand, “We Don’t Want

Your Body" is snarky and tongue-in-cheek. Very much so on the extreme pop spectrum of Stars' style, it deviates from the album's haunted themes about those who dwell in the past. Millan lends her vocals to a coquettish sing-song chant: 'You tune into my frequency/That don't mean a thing to me/Cause I don't want your body/ I don't want your body'. The song easily conjures up a tasteless scorned lover, whose advances are rebuffed repeatedly.

There are those who claim that Stars only has two colors: ebullient pop songs and melancholy ballads epitomized by lovelorn

★★★★★

Stars

Five Ghosts

Vagrant Records

Released June 21, 2010

croons. I'd argue that the most impressive thing about Stars is their nuance and spectrum of colors.

MOVIE REVIEW

Enjoyable for fans, but questionable for others

Sex & the City 2 brings back its beloved, stereotypical characters

By Emily Nardoni
STAFF WRITER

This is not the type of movie you see unless you're genuinely interested in the characters. Sure, it seems to have all the makings of a fun girl movie; unlike such series as *The Lord of the Rings*, where knowledge of the books is a nice supplement but completely unnecessary for appreciation of the films themselves. Some prior exposure to *Carrie*, *Miranda*, *Charlotte*, and *Samantha* is a definite prerequisite for any real appreciation of the *Sex and the City* film series.

But given said exposure, and a certain tolerance for the brand of corniness present in all chick flicks, *Sex and the City 2* is actually okay. Far from perfect, often excessive, and possessed with more than a few failed jokes — it is also enjoyable and overall pretty funny to fans of the original television series. The film begins two years after the last film left off, at the very, very gay wedding of Carrie and Charlotte's two best gay friends: Stanford and Anthony. It's a funny scene that borders on superfluous both in length and in stereotyping — Liza Minnelli cameos singing "Single Ladies" at

the reception — but Stanford is one of the most feminine male characters on television.

Next, we are introduced to all the new (and old) drama plaguing the four friends' lives as they each live out their very different situations and continue to pour their hearts out to each other. Carrie is dealing with her and Big's — the man she finally wed in the last film — very different conceptions of married life, Miranda's having problems at work, Samantha's in the midst of menopause, and Charlotte's finding parenting much harder than she lets on. This sequence of the girls just being themselves in New York is the most real part of the film, the part that makes me glad producers decided to take *Sex and the City* to the big screen.

But the real adventures start when the girls are shipped off to Abu Dhabi for an all-expenses-paid vacation courtesy of an Arab sheikh Samantha's doing PR for. I have rather mixed feelings about this surprise luxury vacation. On the one hand, it seems far too unrealistic and provides one too many awkward situations clashing conservative Arab culture with the girls' excessiveness. But, on the other hand, it's amusing watching the girls be themselves in such a drastically different environment, and there are enough stand-out moments to draw my attention away from the ones that flop. By far, one of the funniest scenes of the film involves Samantha lamenting that without her hormonal drugs — which were confiscated upon arrival in Abu Dhabi — she feels no desire for sex even in the presence of attractive speedo-clad Australian men at the hotel's pool.

Sex and the City's biggest appeal has

★★★★★

Sex & the City 2

Directed by Michael Patrick King

**Starring Sarah Jessica Parker,
Kim Cattrall, Kristin David,
and Cynthia Nixon**

Rated R



—WARNER BROTHERS

Gorgeous clothing and the *Sex & the City* characters **are the only saving graces of the new, ridiculous fluffy film.**

MOVIE REVIEW

Crossing the finish line with *Spirit of the Marathon*

Jon Dunham captures the essence and stories behind the Chicago Marathon

By Philipp Diesinger

Spirit of the Marathon is a rare documentary movie that tries to capture the drama and essence of the 26.2 mile running event. Director Jon Dunham and his crew filmed on four continents to chronicle the experiences of six very different marathon runners throughout their training and closing with their performances in the 2005 Chicago Marathon. The film focuses on two elite runners who focus on winning the race: American Champion and 2004 Olympic bronze medalist Deena Kastor and the Kenyan professional runner Daniel Njenga. The film also displays the struggles and successes of the five amateur runners Ryan Bradley, Leah Calle, Gerald Myers and Lori O'Connor. "The reason that most people run the marathon is that it is a challenge for them. And whether it's physical, mental or both - it's something that helps them in their everyday life" explains Marathon champion Alberto Salazar.

Spirit starts by illuminating the history of the race with archived footage and photos from several Olympic marathons, it shows how this long-distance run became dominated by African runners and the im-

portance this has for their home countries. Dunham also focuses on the curious role of women and how they fought back their right to compete in marathon races after the 1928 Olympics officials decided that any races further than 200 meters were too hard for them and therefore banned all women from distances beyond this range.

***Spirit* leaves the usual track of a documentary and delves into a more personal and emotional exploration...**

After setting the frame, *Spirit* leaves the usual track of a documentary and delves into a more personal and emotional exploration of the six individuals and their lives, hopes, and experiences. Daniel Njenga, one of the top 10-runners in the world, was followed to Kenya when visiting his family and siblings. While watching those scenes the audience is given an inside glimpse

of what marathon running means to him, his siblings and his entire country. Njenga speaks intimately about his Kenyan house and how the money with which he supports his big family attracted thugs.

Spirit also explains the five amateur runners' diverse motivations to finish the 2005 Chicago Marathon how the event impacts their lives. Jon Dunham uses their stories to pull the attention away from a sports event to demonstrate that marathon race is a strong metaphor for life. At the entrance statement of the film Deena Kastor explains: "Sometimes the moments that challenge us, define us the most." This is even - if not more - true for those amateur runners.

When director Jon Dunham was asked how he choose the six runners he selected, he found the marathon to be an "incredible mixing of elite runners with the amateur runners from all across the globe and all ranges of human experience". Dunham said that he wanted the film "to offer inspiration for anyone who sets out to achieve a goal that takes the determination, effort and attitude of running a marathon". His movie demonstrates the incredible human ability to bring the impossible to re-

★★★★☆

Spirit of the Marathon

DVD, Released January 24, 2008

Directed by Jon Dunham

Rated PG

ality and thus becomes more and more a film about the temper of man itself. Boston Marathon champion Dick Beardsley gets to the heart of the complex fascination of the marathon: "When you cross that finish line - no matter how slow, no matter how fast - it will change your life forever."

Spirit is an exciting documentary about both running and life. The incredible soundtrack of Emmy Award winner Jeff Beal generates a very intense and emotional atmosphere and makes it an inspiring demonstration of the human ability to overcome any struggle. If you enjoy running, no matter how fast or slow you are, you will definitely enjoy this documentary.

CONCERT REVIEW

Give me the funk: War kicks off concert series at the Hatch Shell

103.3 WODS's Free Summer Concert Series at the Hatch Shell features iconic oldies

By Ana Lyons

STAFF WRITER

With bubbles floating through the air and peace signs diffusing through the crowd at a rate that would have impressed even Robert Brown, the flower children of Boston made a comeback at the first of 103.3 WODS's Free Summer Concert Series on June 19, featuring the wildly popular 70's funk band, War.

War is best known for their hits "Why Can't We Be Friends?" and "Low Rider," which are frequently used in Hollywood films, and most recently has been used in beginning credits of the comedy sitcom "George Lopez."

The roughly two-hour concert was held at the Boston Hatch Shell, and the show began at 7 p.m.—just as the hot summer sun came to rest over the Charles, filling the sky with psychedelic shades of hot pink, burnt amber, and indigo.

Admission was free, and a good view was available to anyone who was willing to bring a blanket and claim a place on the lawn, about an hour before the concert was scheduled to begin.

The crowd was admittedly 40 and over, however, the lawn was sprinkled with families and hipster-esque college students, hoping for a night of free entertainment. Tie-

dyed shirts, bell-bottomed jeans, American flag head bands, and crisp white daisies appeared to be the unspoken dress code for the majority of the crowd, but 10 minutes or so into the concert, everyone in the crowd—regardless of age or fashion sense—was tapping their feet, shaking their hips, and bouncing beach balls to the next blanket over.

The music was somewhat slow to begin, but once lead singer Leroy "Lonnie" Jordan opened the night with "Give Up the Funk," the energy of the crowd ignited, as dozens of fans stood up to display signs and dance. The lead saxophonist kept the energy of the crowd alive, with his soulful solos, which were enough reason to make the trip to the show, even before the top hits made it through the queue. The funky hippie outfits of the band, bright lights of the Hatch Shell, the neon-sticker embellished keyboard appearing center stage, and energy of the crowd were all added bonuses to the beautiful Boston weather and good old-fashioned funk floating through the park.

As expected, the crowd went wild for the well-known hit "Why Can't We Be Friends?" and nearly everyone was dancing on their feet for the bongo-ridden song of the night, "Low Rider." In return for the free concert, all that the band asked

War Concert

Boston Hatch Shell

103.3 WODS's Free Summer Concert

from the crowd was a little "L-U-B-B" (love) in return.

The local radio station is hosting two more similar free concerts over the summer, with the upcoming concert featuring the 80's legend Eddie Money (singer of the hits "Take Me Home Tonight" and "Baby Hold On") on July 17. It's the perfect musical addition to a picnic with friends or an outing with family (especially your parents—imagine getting to see Lady Gaga or John Mayer, these oldie's likely feature equivalents, for free 60 years down the road).

The music may not be the best of modern music, but bring a bottle of sparkling fruit juice, a baguette and cheese, a blanket for the lawn, and some good company to take an enjoyable walk through the history of American pop. And did I mention it's free?

For a complete posting of 103.3 WODS's Free Summer Concert Series, visit: <http://wods.radio.com/shows/2010-free-summer-concert-series/>



ANDREW SWAYZE—THE TECH

A jam-packed crowd watches on as Conductor Keith Lockhart leads the Boston Pops at the Hatch Shell. Well over 500,000 people lined the Charles River to watch the 4th of July fireworks celebration.

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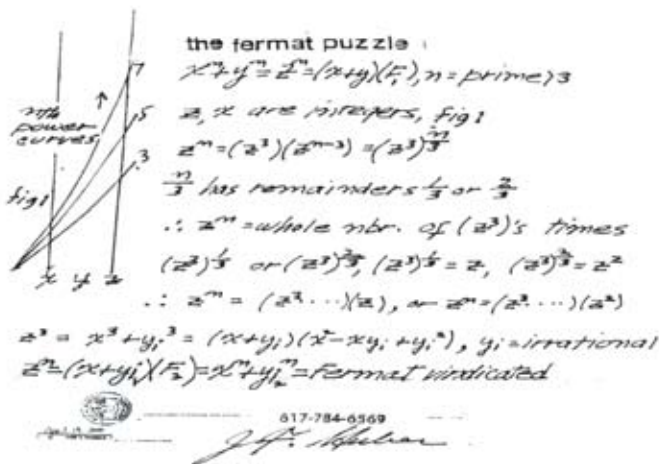
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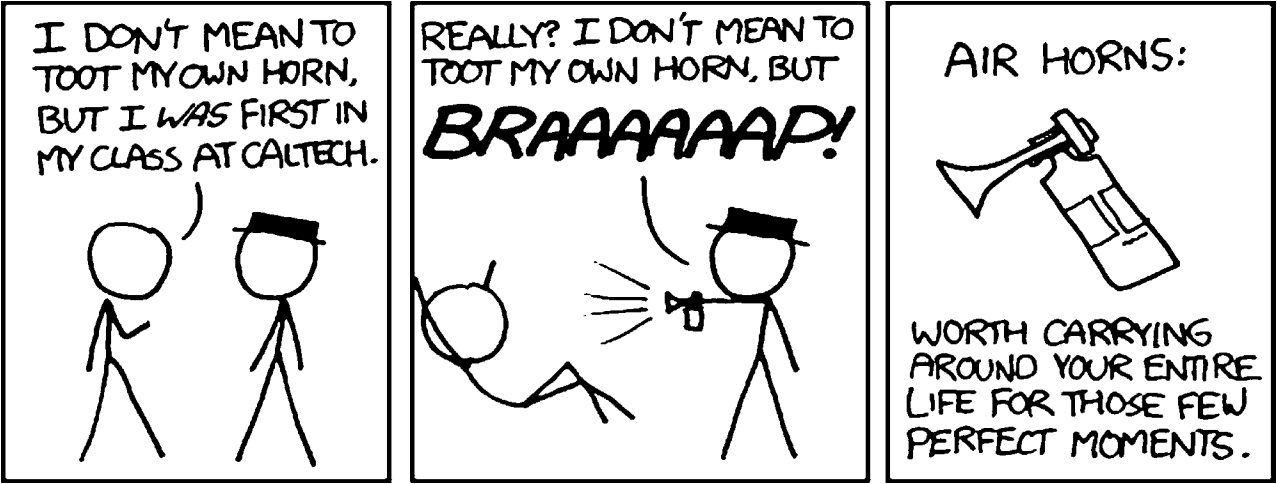
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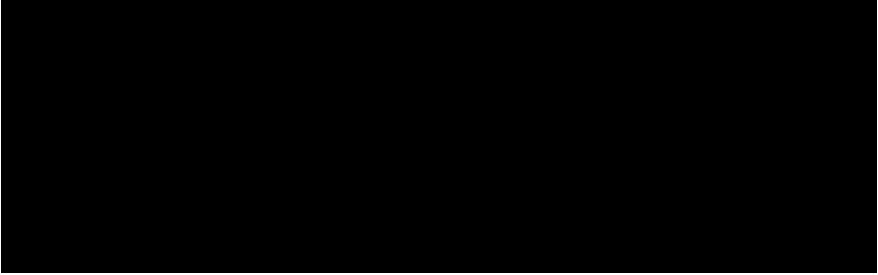
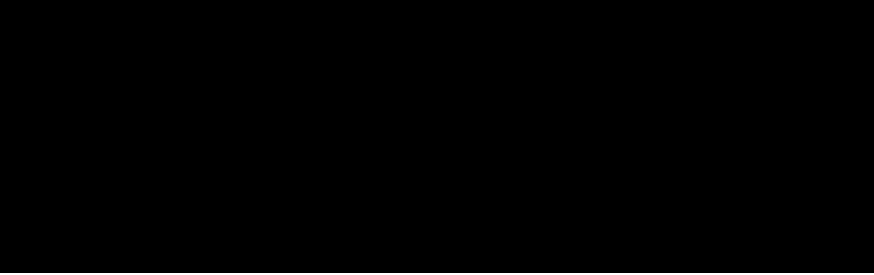
A WEBCOMIC OF ROMANCE,
SARCASM, MATH, AND LANGUAGE
by Randall Munroe

Toot



This is also one of only five identified situations in which a vuvuzela is acually appropriate.

Dilbert® by Scott Adams



Kenken

Solution, page 3

20×	3÷	2÷	5—		2—
			4—		
1—	9+			2—	3—
	15+				
5—	2÷	2—	1—		3÷
			6+		

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column and row contains exactly one of each of the numbers 1 through 6. Follow the mathematical operations for each box.

Sudoku

Solution, page 3

	8			2	9			4
2			7		4		8	
4						2		
8		9						2
1	7						9	6
5						3		7
		8						5
	5		8		7			3
6			9	5			1	

Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9.

Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 3

ACROSS

- 1 Less common
6 Greek letter
9 Doc on the battlefield
14 Single-handedly
15 Cup handle
16 Sheeplike
17 Emotional anguish
19 Gaucho's rope
20 Russian pianist
21 God of cunning
22 Decisive
24 Single unit
25 "Goldberg Variations" composer
28 Mud smears
29 Aardvark fare
30 Hooter
31 Ships' tillers
32 Conclude
33 Showy feathers
35 Bluegrass instruments
38 __ mot (witticism)
39 Item in the plus column
42 Hollywood's Lupino

- 43 1975 Wimbledon champion
45 A Shore
46 FBI personnel
47 Also
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BROUHAHA RHYTHM

Rebuilding the Machine Man

What *Metropolis* illustrates about first impressions

By Michael Lin
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

Trying to figure out where I stand on the line between “good taste in movies” and “cinema snob” has been a bizarre process. Looking through my movie collection, the balance between “mindless but enjoyable fluff” and “underappreciated gems that I spend most of my time trying to show other people” is surprisingly even. One of my recent purchases, a blockbuster action-comedy starring Dwayne Johnson (while he was still credited as “The Rock”), even manages to fall into both categories.

The impetus for my cinematic identity crisis boils down to the question of whether it’s possible to predict a movie’s potential impact at its release, a question brought on by a movie experience I had last month. Once upon a time, German filmmaker Fritz Lang released the silent film *Metropolis*, about a futuristic-circa-1927 city populated by a downtrodden working class, their administrative oppressors, one

The moral of the restoration of *Metropolis* seems to be that rushing to tweak something based on first impressions isn’t always a good idea.

mad scientist with a bum hand, and one Machine Man that would be indistinguishable from a human if it weren’t so good at “evil overlord” hand gestures. For reasons that probably seem rather silly in hindsight, large portions of it were cut shortly after its release, and for several decades the film could only be seen in a woefully incomplete form. Then, in 2008, a nearly complete print was found in Buenos Aires,

presumably by a stubbly adventurer with a fedora and a whip digging through the rubble of an abandoned 8-screen cineplex in the Argentinean mountains.

The subsequent restoration is the most complete version of the film to date, missing only about five minutes of footage compared to the original theatrical release. To tell you that partaking of this priceless artifact last month was a life-changing experience would not only make any English-speaking screenwriter cringe, it would probably be much less effective than simply saying that it was very, very cool. My inner moviegoer and inner movie snob exchanged inner high-fives as I walked out of the theater, one because he had just seen the movie that kicked off virtually the entire genre of sci-fi and speculative fiction as we know it, and the other because the film he just saw delivered edge-of-the-seat thrills, nail-biting action, and a happy ending in spite of being a) completely silent, and b) German.

The moral of the restoration of *Metropolis* seems to be that rushing to tweak something based on first impressions isn’t always a good idea; tweaking at all often makes people uncomfortable (Mr. Lucas, I’m looking at you), let alone chopping up a film like you were making celluloid stew. Sure, in the digital age, the chances of losing anything forever as nearly happened with *Metropolis* is virtually nil — even if we might want to. One might argue that, given this summer’s lineup, the chances of anything fresh is even less. The top three at the box office this weekend are a book adaptation (*Eclipse*), a television series adaptation (*The Last Airbender*), and a threequel (*Toy Story 3*). Elsewhere on the top ten are a remake (*The Karate Kid*), another television adaptation (*The A-Team*), and what seems to me to be a rather unnecessary four-quel (*Shrek Forever After*). When so many of the big films are derivatives of preexisting media, it’s

hard to imagine anything have the same level of impact on any genre as much as *Metropolis*, especially now that genres like romance, horror, action, and parodies thereof ending in the word “Movie,” have so thoroughly established. Even so, it’s important to remember in light of the headaches involved in putting *Metropolis* and its Machine Man together again, you never know when something might surprise you and be that one film that defines cinema for the next century. I don’t think *Jackass 3-D* is going to be it, but I’m sure

the Darwin Awards will appreciate the word-of-mouth.

Now, if you’ll excuse me, I have to go catch up on yet more movie-watching. There’s a reboot (*Predators*) coming out I’ve been wanting to see, and I still haven’t even seen the latest comic book adaptation (*Jonah Hex*) and comic book adaptation sequel (*Iron Man 2*) while waiting for the DVD release of a folklore adaptation (*Robin Hood*). Hopefully the crowds waiting to see the sequel to *Cats and Dogs* won’t be fighting like... well, you know.



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Focus on Tang’s health

Tang was mentally unwell at time of stabbing

Tang, from Page 1

judge. The defense alleged that victim’s mother, Glen Styke, had “extensive contact” with Fife and that led to Fife “suddenly and belatedly” changing her opinion. George’s motion calls this part of “a series of untoward and disturbing events.” Styke denies meeting with Fife, and a spokeswoman for the Middlesex District Attorney’s office, Jessica Venezia Pastore, denies contact took place. See the sidebar for details of day one of the trial, on Friday June 25, previously published on our web-site.

Day 2, Monday

On Monday morning, the defense cross-examined Wolfe Styke. That covered similar ground to Friday’s testimony, though focused more on Styke’s perceptions of Tang. Styke testified that he “eventually” understood that Tang was mentally ill, and that he knew she was taking Celexa, a prescription antipsychotic medication. He also testified that he forced Tang to move out of his room “because of parental pressure.”

Security guard testifies

Styke was followed on the stand by Russell J. Novello, the night watch patrolman at Next House on the night of the stabbing. Novello, who is no longer employed by MIT, testified that he gave Tang the key to Styke’s room, Room 246, between 5:00 and 5:30 a.m. on Oct. 23, and he believed at the time that she was Styke’s girlfriend. Novello said “she was very nice,” not crying or upset.

Tang failed to return the key, so Novello went up to Room 246 to retrieve the key. Novello knocked on the door, Tang returned the key, apologized, and Novello went back downstairs to the front desk, he said. At about 6:30 a.m., Novello said, a male, probably a student, came down to the front desk and informed Novello that someone had been stabbed, and led Novello up to Room 246, where he saw Styke bleeding. Novello called the Campus Police, and then led them up to the room, he said. The defense did not cross-examine Novello.

Dr. Brown

The bulk of Monday’s testimony was that of the defense’s expert psychiatrist, Dr. Eric L. Brown. Brown, who is paid by the defense on an hourly basis, has been evaluating Tang since December 2007, two months after the incident. Brown said he examined Tang’s medical records, including those from Wellesley’s Stone Center for Counseling, Tang’s extensive record of emails with Styke and others, and records of Skype conversations with Styke. Brown monitored Tang’s status on a weekly basis, he said, and coordinated Tang’s treating psychopharmacologist Dr. Michael Moffson, and her psychologist Dr. Liza Brooks. Brown said he conducted a longitudinal evaluation of Tang over the course of two and a half years, and he spent a total of 26 hours with Anna Tang.

Tang had a history of medical illness dating back to adolescence, Brown said. He described her records as showing depressive behavior and manic behavior. He described Tang seeking counseling at Wellesley in early fall of 2005. According to Brown, Tang’s depression increased in February of 2006, and that she withdrew from Wellesley for a term. Brown said that Tang felt suicidal during her teenage years, that she scratched herself, and that she wanted to kill herself. Brown described an incident in high school where Tang was made “incredibly distraught” by an argument with her sister. “Her relationships were so tenuous — but also so impoverished — ... that the prospect of her sister not talking to her was just like psychological annihilation,” he said. “That made her extremely depressed,” Brown said. Brown also testified that Wellesley College records said Tang “was sexually abused by her father — that was an incident that left her distraught, but very guilty. At the same time it also worsened her feeling — she had low self esteem to begin with — being sexually violated by her father made her feel even more worthless.” Brown said that it was his medical opinion that Tang “most definitely had a mental illness” from 2006–2007, and that it was a bipolar disorder. Brown testified that, “My opinion is that she lacked the substantial capacity to appreciate the wrongfulness of her behavior; she lacked the substantial capacity to control her behavior to conform with the requirements of the law.” Brown testified that Dr. Fife, the Commonwealth’s expert, opined that Tang was unable to control her behavior because of her mental illness, and that Tang could not appreciate right from wrong.

Day 3, Wednesday

Tuesday was a scheduled day off for the trial. On Wednesday morning, the trial began with the defense attorney George announcing that he had been informed by ADA Kontz on Tuesday afternoon that Dr. Fife, the Commonwealth’s expert, “now wishes to change her opinion as to criminal responsibility.” Kontz told the judge that “Dr. Fife is changing her opinion as to one prong of the elements that the court would need to find criminal responsibility.” Judge Henry agreed to a postponement of the trial. It seemed likely that the revised trial might be a jury trial, because “you wish to keep your options open,” the judge said to the defense. The defense also filed a motion to modify Tang’s bail conditions. Tang’s father, Jianguo “Jay” Tang, is dying of terminal liver cancer in China, and is not expect to last into August. Attorney George asked that Tang be permitted to visit her father on his deathbed, as well as to lower her \$10,000 bail, and relax some of the conditions of her GPS monitoring. Later that day, the court denied the request to permit Tang to leave the country, writing:

“DENIED, after consideration of the issues raised by counsel and after review of the defendant’s compliance with the conditions placed upon her in previous orders. While there have been no issues at all with respect to her compliance to date, I have a concern about Ms. Tang’s return to face the trial of this matter after travel to China, a country with which the United States does not have an extradition treaty. As a father my heart goes out to Ms. Tang and her dying father. As a judge, however, I cannot rule with just my heart. Taking into account all of the various factors at issue, I must deny the defendant’s request to travel to China.”

The court did permit a reduction of Tang’s bail to \$5,000 “to cover the ongoing costs of her defense” and indicated it was receptive to loosening restrictions on Tang’s ability to leave her home, but the defense would need to be specific about the desired loosening, and to submit proposals to the Court’s Probation Department for input before the judge would consider them. The Commonwealth pursued Brown about various factual details of his testimony. For instance, Brown had testified earlier that Tang “thought she had superhuman powers.” But then ADA Kontz referred to the Wellesley College records that state Tang “fantasized that she wanted to have those powers ... not that she actually had those powers?” The prosecution attempted to convince Judge Henry that most of Brown’s knowledge of Tang were based on things Tang reported to Brown or to other clinicians.

When asked if Brown “would have to re-assess his opinion” if he found out that Tang had lied to him. Brown indicated that he would have to re-assess his opinion in that case. The prosecution also pointed to inconsistencies in Dr. Desai’s report. Desai was a clinician at Wellesley College who saw Tang, and whose report was reviewed by Brown. Brown did not appear to have been aware of those inconsistencies, and that diminished his credibility.

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Going forward

On Thursday July 1, the defense filed another motion to modify bail conditions, and the court denied the motion temporarily until the status hearing in August. The Commonwealth filed a motion in opposition, as well. The next court date is August 17, in Woburn, Mass. At that time, we expect another trial date will be set, and the Court will hear an oral argument about Tang’s bail conditions, decide whether to relax them, and if so to what degree.

Day 1, June 25

Wolfe B. Styke ’10 testified on the opening day of *Commonwealth v. Anna Tang*, the trial of the former Wellesley student who stabbed Styke in his Next House dormitory room in October 2007. On the witness stand Styke was reserved and reticent, oftentimes pausing for tens of seconds before responding to or acknowledging questions. When he did speak, he did so quietly, almost inaudibly, and many times lawyers, the judge, and clerks asked him to repeat himself or speak louder. According to the Commonwealth, Styke was diagnosed as a child with “apraxia of speech” and “severe phrenological disorder” which are “exacerbated by stress.”



Wolfe B. Styke '10

CNN cameras raise issue

Styke’s apparent nervousness could only have been compounded by the presence of TV cameras and crew from CNN’s Court TV division, “In Session.” *The Tech* was also present with a still camera. CNN does not plan to air the case before September, a producer said. Styke was the Commonwealth’s lead witness, and the trial began with a motion by the Commonwealth to prohibit identification of Styke or “dissemination of [his] face.” Cameras are permitted by Massachusetts court rules, within some limits. The foremost concern is whether they “create a substantial likelihood of harm.” The Commonwealth argued against the cameras, saying that Styke might choose not to take the stand if they were present, and explained he would be testifying about intimate personal details. Styke’s testimony is at the core of the Commonwealth’s case. Justice Bruce R. Henry denied the prosecution’s motion to restrict cameras, and the trial began.

Opening arguments

This trial is a bench trial before Justice Henry. Tang waived her right to a jury trial, the only time she spoke in open court on Friday. She spoke forthrightly and clearly, in strong contrast to Styke’s muted speech. But Tang was only asked a series of questions about her procedural understanding of the jury waiver; she has not yet appeared on the witness stand. Assistant District Attorney Suzanne M. Kontz, in her opening statement, anticipated that the defense would argue Tang was insane, and responded with an analogy: Just as a person might be legally intoxicated and would still be legally responsible for their actions, so might Tang have mental health issues and still be criminally responsible. Defense attorney Robert A. George’s opening argument described Tang’s history of mental illness, even prior to her arrival at Wellesley. George painted a picture of a young woman who was unwell, who knew she was unwell, and who was on medication — perhaps the wrong medication, he alleged. George stressed that not only did the defense’s doctors view Tang as not criminally responsible, but so did the expert retained by the Commonwealth at the Court’s request, Dr. Alison Fife. It was shortly after Fife’s evaluation of Tang, about two months ago, that the defense elected to forgo a jury trial in favor of a bench trial. In a jury trial, the defense all twelve jurors to agree on Tang’s guilt. In a trial before a judge, only a single person, that judge, needs to be convinced. But the judge has stronger technical understanding of the law than most juries would.

Styke’s testimony

The prosecution called Wolfe Styke to the stand at 11:30 a.m., and he testified through 4:00 p.m. with a lunch break of a little over an hour. Styke’s testimony was slow and careful, but he appeared detached. Many times, questions were repeated or rephrased George said in an e-mail that he was “taken aback by [Styke’s] delivery and demeanor.” Styke described meeting Tang in early 2007 at a “coffeehouse meeting,” presumably a reference to an informal gathering of roof-and-tunnel hackers, though the testimony did not explore this. Styke and Tang became friends as they worked together on classwork. Tang was cross-registered at MIT

and they shared a class, Styke said. When Tang needed a place to stay for the summer of 2007, she moved in with Styke, he said. Styke described his relationship with Tang as his first. He explained how it continued until it became sexual, after which he tried, with difficulty, to break off the relationship. At the end of July 2007, under pressure from his parents, Styke forced Tang to move out. She moved into an MIT independent living group, Styke said. Based on his description, that ILG was Epsilon Theta, in Brookline. Styke and Tang continued to see each other as friends throughout the summer, Styke said. Tang wanted to get back together with him, he said, but he did not want that, however he was still willing to talk and study with her. Tang and Styke would talk for several hours a night, several times a week, he said.

Precursor to stabbing

Styke described an incident where Tang did not want to leave his room, refusing dozens of requests to do so over a span of hours. At one point, Tang grabbed Styke by the shoulders and pushed at him, he said. Styke said Tang eventually explained “she wanted to get to a knife to hurt herself to show me how much she cared—and that didn’t make any sense.” Styke said he threatened to call 911, and that was sufficient for Tang to leave. Styke described Tang’s facial expression as shocked. He feared that she would treat him differently going forward because of that threat. Styke even considered installing an audible alarm on his door, he said, so he could not be surprised in his sleep. But he did not do so.

The stabbing incident

Early on the evening of Oct. 22, 2007, Styke and a female friend were working on homework together in his room, he said. Tang came to see Styke, saw the friend, and “stormed off,” he said. Styke said Tang’s face looked as it did when he had threatened to call 911, previously. Styke said he “went to an event” that night around midnight, returned home around 2:30 or 3 a.m., and went to sleep around 3:30 a.m. The next thing he remembered was waking up with the sun shining around his drawn blinds, and a shiny object heading towards his head, and a person “on top of me.” That person was Anna Tang. Styke blocked her knife strike, he said, and pinned her on his bed. “Then I took the knife from her hands and tossed it aside,” he said, rolling her out of his bed as he got up. Styke repeated the phrase “tossed it aside” several times as he related the incident. After getting off the bed, Styke picked up his cell phone and called 911, he said. He observed a trail of blood behind him and began to understand the seriousness of his wounds: “I could see my arm muscles through my skin,” he said.

Paramedics respond

Styke wrapped towels around his bleeding wounds, and within a few minutes, police and paramedics arrived, he said. With a total of seven wounds, he was transported to Mass. General Hospital, he said. At least six of the seven wounds took place while he was sleeping, he said. Styke said that now, almost three years later, he still feels the physical effects. He has areas on his shin and upper arm that are numb, he said, and also has scars from all seven wounds, and might consider plastic surgery, he said.

Trial reactions

George, the defense attorney, gave his reaction to the first day in an e-mail: “These types of proceedings demonstrate why a jury-waived setting is sometimes in the best interest of justice.” “The first day went very slowly and would have tested a jury’s patience beyond any reasonable measure, so I am now certain that the decision to elect a non-jury trial was the best route for Ms. Tang’s case. I can only hope that the next two days of hearings go much more efficiently,” he said. A version of this sidebar previously ran on the web on June 26.

Ortiz to follow in Lerman’s footsteps

Aims to improve MIT diversity, research

Grad dean, from Page 1

dean, Clay put together a six-member advisory group. The advisory group consisted of five professors (Martin L. Culpepper, Karen K. Gleason ’82, Kai von Fintel, John A. Ochsendorf, and Maria T. Zuber) as well as the President of the Graduate Student Council, Ulric J. Ferner G.

“The group was assembled to include a representative of the faculty and a graduate student leader familiar with issues related to the graduate student experience,” said Clay.

There were more than three-dozen nominations for the new position, all of which were tenured faculty at MIT. Clay talked or interviewed with roughly one dozen of the candidates. Two final candidates were interviewed by the advisory group.

The members of the Advisory Group said they are very pleased with the appointment of Ortiz.

“I think that Christine will be fantastic in this role. She has a lot of creative ideas for the Office [of Graduate Education] and she’ll bring a lot of energy,” said Ferner.

Ochsendorf was also happy with Ortiz’s appointment. “She is absolutely inspirational,” he said.

Ortiz told *The Tech* in an interview that the Dean for Graduate Education “can bring different departments together to discuss their programs and innovations. We can cross cultivate and get people talking together in a way that enhances the graduate experience.”

Ortiz mentioned that she foresees no immediate major changes to the gradu-

ate education program. “The first part will be learning and listening to the staff and the students, and then go from there,” she said. “Lerman made a good foundation and I’d like to continue a lot of the work that he did.”

In the long-term, however, Ortiz said that she’d like to evaluate and improve several aspects of graduate education, including lab-based courses, distance learning, and interdisciplinary programs. She recently led a revision of the graduate curriculum in the Department of Materials Science and Engineering (DMSE). She summarized these changes in a section in the January/February MIT Faculty Newsletter report entitled, “Towards a Personalized Graduate Curriculum.”

Ortiz received her B.S. (1992) from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and her M.S. (1994) and Ph.D. (1997) from Cornell University. In 1999, she came to MIT as an assistant professor. Her research group studies the structure and nanomechanics of biological materials, and the Department of Defense has recognized her for her research in new body armor technology based on the natural armor of primitive fish.

She has been invited to give over 100 lectures all over the country. She has also written over 100 publications, and serves on editorial boards for several journals including *Science*. In her laboratory, she works with 16 students and postdoctoral associates. Despite her busy work schedule, Ortiz said she plans to continue doing research as dean.

Ortiz also teaches 3.052 “Nanomechanics of Materials and Biomaterials,”

which she started in 2000. As a result of her appointment as dean, she said that she will scale back on teaching.

In addition to her research and teaching, Ortiz is active in the MIT Community. She has held positions on the MIT Institute Global Studies Council, Institute Committee on Graduate Programs, Materials Council, Committee on International Programs, and MIT150 Planning Committee.

She is also the founder and director of MISTI MIT-Israel, which offers MIT students internships in Israel. She created the program after noticing that many of her research collaborations were involved with groups in Israel. Since starting the program, she has sent several of her own students to Israel.

Additionally, Ortiz is a strong supporter for diversity-related issues in higher education. She hosts the MIT Diversity Web Portal and has participated in many diversity committees and panels at MIT and abroad.

“It’s important that MIT have an inclusive climate where all of its members have the opportunity to reach their goals,” Ortiz said.

The role of dean for Graduate Education is mainly responsible for organizing and distributing graduate fellowships, working on recruitment and inclusion of minority and women students, and for general advising and mentoring. In addition to these major objectives, the dean also works and collaborates with the Committee on Graduate Programs, the Graduate Student Life, and the Dean for Student Life.

Chug to the US

An unconventional 4th celebration at MIT

Milk, from Page 1

cium lately,” he said.

Most of the participants were given a gallon of skim milk and strategically placed alongside trash cans in case of messy accidents.

Andrew T. Carlson ’12 boldly chose to participate with a gallon of whole milk because he said that is what he customarily drank. Elizabeth K. Rosalia ’13, the only female participant, substituted a gallon of water for the milk. She was curious about whether the difficulty in the challenge lay in the volume of liquid or the unique unpalatability of milk itself.

Rosalia was the only one able to complete her gallon, but reported feeling dizzy and nauseous after the experience. None of the milk drinkers finished drinking their gallons, giving up with around a third of the milk to go.

Whole milk proved to be the most difficult to finish, although Carlson was admirably close to catching up with the other contestants.

Johnson said that he felt more patriotic after drinking all the milk. “What better way to reinforce the imperial measurement system. Who wants to participate in the 3.7854 liters challenge? Probably a bunch of lame metric system types,” Johnson said.

There are currently no studies on either PubMed or Google Scholar on the science behind why the gallon challenge is so hard. However, some websites, yielded through a preliminary Google search, offer a variety of reasons. Some suggest that the large amount of milk overwhelms a normal person’s lactose-digesting capabilities. A Yahoo! Answers user suggests that milk neutralizes stomach acids and thus acts against digestion itself. On the other hand, Some believe that the challenge is difficult simply because of the limitations of the maximum carrying capacity of the stomach; others believe that is just an excuse and purely psychological funny-business.



ELIJAH MENA—THE TECH

The Fourth of July fireworks are seen from the top of the Green Building (Bldg. 54). Anxious spectators began lining up along the Charles River early in the morning to reserve prime viewing spots for the July 4th Boston Pops Fireworks Spectacular.

Hickey writes Hockfield, MIT must help save coast

Spill, from Page 1

Tech. “I wish that people would bring it more to the forefront and try to recognize [the situation] more,” she said. “I thought it was just a bummer that they didn’t even bother acknowledging the email.”

On May 14, U.S. Energy Secretary Steven Chu appointed Alexander H. Slocum ’82, MIT professor of mechanical engineering, to specially-picked group of five scientists to

help propose alternative strategies to slow the BP oil leak. Slocum was among the MIT professors who met with President Barack Obama last fall during the laboratory tours, and is one of several MIT faculty members currently lending their technological expertise to help manage the BP oil spill.

The Tech sent emails both to Slocum and Hockfield, however, they declined to comment on Hickey’s email and the current oil spill situation.

Pops, Keith take the stage

Country and classical fuse the 4th

By Jingyun Fan
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Over 800,000 people gathered on the Esplanade on July 4th this year to watch the annual Boston Pops Fireworks Spectacular. The show featured musical performances at the Hatch Shell by country singer and superstar Toby Keith, the Boston Pops Orchestra with conductor Keith Lockhart, the Tanglewood Festival Chorus, and the Middlesex County Volunteers Fifes & Drums. This is a “show that will surely dazzle the senses!” promised the announcer as the show went live on national television.

As in years past, Bostonians and visitors camped

out in the sweltering heat for prime space on the Esplanade eight hours before the show actually started. To fend off boredom, children played volleyball with beachballs and garnered red, white and blue face paintings.

Keith was dressed in flared blue jeans, cowboy boots and hat, and brown shirt with glimmering gold inserts. Each time he entered the stage, his most avid fans cheered wildly. One fan shouted loudly, “I love you!” prompting the national television host Craig Ferguson to acknowledge the declaration.

The highlight of the show was the Boston Pops Orchestra’s performance of

Tchaikovsky’s 1812 Overture set to cannon salutes by the 101st Field Artillery Regiment. The three M102 Howitzer cannons have a range of 11,500m (7.1 miles) and a rate of fire of 10 rounds per minute.

The spectacular show concluded with the famous fireworks display. This year, the Boston Pops Fireworks Spectacular focused on presenting new effects, adaptations, and meaningful music themes—including this year’s use of hot pink hearts. During the fireworks, recordings of “You’re a Grand Old Flag” sung by the Mormon Tabernacle Choir and “Just Dance” sung by Lady Gaga were played for spectators.



ANDREW SWAYZE—THE TECH

The U.S. Army’s artillery squad fires off cannons during the Boston Pops’ rendition of Tchaikovsky’s “1812 Overture.” The “1812 Overture” is a traditional part of the July 4th Boston Pops Fireworks Spectacular at the Hatch Shell.

